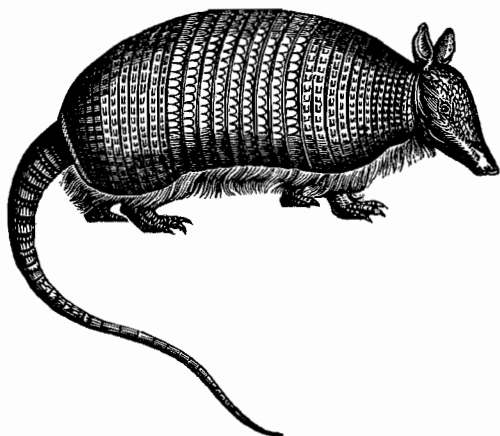


Today, I continue to be active in a transformed RSPCA while working professionally with Brian Davies in the newly formed Political Animal Lobby, meeting and talking with British political leaders, in the long hard business of persuading them to take the subject of animal protection as seriously as do millions of their electors. We made a little history when we met John Major at 10 Downing Street just before the 1992 General Election: the first time a British Prime Minister has agreed to a meeting with animal welfarists. We have also broken new and controversial ground by making large financial donations to all the major parties; the political process needing another kick start after stalling under Margaret Thatcher. (The Conservative Party have been doing much better on animal welfare recently.)

I live now, rather strangely, on two levels; that of the political pragmatist arguing over legislative details and that of the idealist searching for a well-honed moral theory.

There have been many failures over the years—on bloodsports, dog registration, the primate trade, battery cages and so on—but I can look back with some sense of achievement, on protected otters, the ban on tobacco experiments on dogs, the establishment of educational Dog Wardens, improvements in Government machinery, the reform of the RSPCA, the inauguration of a Europe-wide movement, assisting with the protection of seals, the stimulation of academic animal welfare research, the putting of animals on to the political agenda and the arousal of a major international debate. But none of this could have been done without the help of countless others. And now we must continue what has only just begun.



To the Editors:

The inaugural issue of *Society and Animals: Social Scientific Studies of the Human Experience of Other Animals* is now available.

It features articles on the symbolic role of animals in Native American rituals, the effect of labeling on the differential treatment of animals, the effectiveness of "pet facilitated therapy," student attitudes towards dissection, and researcher attitudes towards pain in their animal subjects.

S&A publishes manuscripts on applied uses of nonhuman animals (research, education, medicine, and agriculture); animals in the popular culture (entertainment, companion animals, animal symbolism); wildlife and the environment; sociopolitical movements, public policy, and the law.

Data-based discussion on ethical and policy issues involving our treatment of animals is encouraged.

Individual subscriptions are \$30 for volume 1 (2 issues), payable to PSYeta, P.O. Box 1297, Washington Grove, MD 20880. For information on manuscript submission, write to me at the same address.

Kenneth Shapiro, Ph. D.